

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1933

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BASYE.

3789H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 170, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to a civil rights era study curriculum.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 170, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 170.349, to read as follows:

170.349. 1. As used in this section, the term "civil rights era" means the period in American history from 1954 to 1968 during which reform-minded Americans organized to press for a rejection of the doctrine of "separate but equal" and to reform Jim Crow era laws in the United States.

2. The general assembly hereby declares that it is the public policy of this state to reaffirm the commitment of the free people of this state to reject bigotry, to champion equal protection under the law as a foundational principle of our republic, and to act in opposition to injustice wherever it may occur. To accomplish such goals; to educate students about the natural law and natural rights principles that informed the leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in the civil rights movement and the tactics and strategies of nonviolent resistance that he championed in response to Jim Crow laws; to educate students about the civil rights era and the universal lesson that hatred on the basis of immutable characteristics such as race or ethnicity or other characteristics such as nationality, religious belief, disability, or sex can overtake any nation or society and lead to profound injustice; and to reinforce such lessons a curriculum for studying the events of the civil rights era and other acts of

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17 discriminatory injustice around the world, a civil rights era study curriculum shall be
18 developed and adopted as provided in this section.

19 3. The department of elementary and secondary education shall develop a
20 curriculum containing at least one unit of instruction studying the civil rights era as
21 described in subsection 2 of this section. Such curriculum shall include, but not be
22 limited to, studies of:

23 (1) The Armenian Genocide;

24 (2) The Holocaust;

25 (3) The use of Chinese indentured workers known as "coolies" in Cuba;

26 (4) The detention and forced labor of Uyghurs by the People's Republic of
27 China;

28 (5) The forced deportation and related criminal acts and human rights abuses
29 against the Rohingya of Burma; and

30 (6) Other efforts around the world to deprive people of fundamental civil rights.

31 4. The department of elementary and secondary education shall make such
32 curriculum available to school districts beginning in the 2023-24 school year.

33 5. Each school district shall adopt the curriculum provided by the department of
34 elementary and secondary education under subsection 4 of this section or a substantially
35 similar curriculum beginning in the 2023-24 school year. Each school district shall
36 determine the minimum amount of instruction time that qualifies as a unit of instruction
37 satisfying the requirements of this section.

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